

Requestor Information		Request Number: C153023
Alex Richardson		Request Status: Denied Closed
MuckRock News		Ready Date:
DEPT MR 17788		Custodian Contact Information
Somerville, MA 02144-2516		Office of the Attorney General
17788-15517766@requests.muckrock.com		Records Custodian
		PO Box 081
		25 Market Street - 3rd Floor West
Request Date: November 26, 2019		Trenton, NJ 08625-0081
Maximum Authorized Cost: \$0.00		oag.records@njoag.gov
Email		609-984-6998
		By _____

Status of Your Request		Cost Information
Your request for government records (# C153023) from the Office of the Attorney General has been reviewed and has been Denied Closed. Detailed information as to the availability of the documents you requested appear below and on following pages as necessary.		Total Cost: \$0.00
The cost and any balance due for this request is shown to the right. Any balance due must be paid in full prior to the release / mailing of the documents.		Deposit: \$0.00
If you have any questions related to the disposition of this request please contact the Custodian of Records for the Office of the Attorney General. The contact information is in the column to the right. Please reference your request number in any contact or correspondence.		Total Amount Paid: \$0.00
		Balance Due: \$0.00

Document Detail

Div	Doc #	Doc Name	Redaction Req	Pages	Legal Size	Electronic Media	Other Cost
OAG	001	all communications between members of this office and employees or representatives of the American Legislative Exchange Council; all communications containing the keywords "ALEC" or "American Legislative Exchange Council"; and any files or documents attached to the above communications	N		N	N	
		Denial: 39.Improper and Overbroad ---					

Government Records Request

Receipt

On November 20, 2019, the Office of the Attorney General received from you hard copy correspondence that referenced your prior attempts to request records via email and also contained copies of the prior correspondence you received from former OAG Custodian of Records Bruce Solomon. As you have now submitted your request in hard copy format in keeping with the Department's accepted OPRA request submission methods, I have processed your request. Please be advised that any further OPRA request to any of the Divisions within the Department of Law & Public Safety must be submitted via either hard copy correspondence directly to the appropriate Custodian or via the online request form, https://www-njlib.state.nj.us/NJ_OPRA/department.jsp. Per Department regulations, requests submitted via email or fax, or sent to an individual other than the appropriate Custodian will not be accepted as a properly submitted OPRA request.

Your request for "all communications between members of this office and employees or representatives of the American Legislative Exchange Council;" "all communications containing the keywords 'ALEC' or 'American Legislative Exchange Council'; and "any files or documents attached to the above communications," is overbroad and therefore invalid under OPRA. OPRA does not allow a blanket request for every document a public agency has on file or a wholesale request for general information. *Gannett N.J. Partners, LP v. Cty. of Middlesex*, 379 N.J. Super. 205, 212 (App. Div. 2005); *MAG Entm't, LLC v. Div. of Alcoholic Beverage Control*, 375 N.J. Super. 534, 549 (App. Div. 2005); *Bent v. Twp. of Stafford Police Dep't*, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 36-37 (App. Div. 2005); *Spectraserv, Inc. v. Middlesex Cty. Utils. Auth.*, 416 N.J. Super. 565, 578 (App. Div. 2010); *N.J. Builders Ass'n v. N.J. Council on Affordable Hous.*, 390 N.J. Super. 166, 178-79 (App. Div. 2007). Requests for correspondence must identify the individuals or accounts to be searched and be confined to a discrete and limited subject matter. *Burke v. Brandes*, 429 N.J. Super. 169, 176-78 (App. Div. 2012); see also *Elcavage v. West Milford Twp. (Passaic)*, GRC Complaint No. 2009-08 (Apr. 8, 2010) (stating that a proper request for email correspondence must contain "(1) the content and/or subject of the e-mail, (2) the specific date or range of dates during which the e-mail was transmitted or the emails were transmitted, and (3) a valid e-mail request must identify the sender and/or the recipient thereof"). For these reasons your request is denied and closed.

Sincerely,
Ivonnely Colon-Fung
Custodian of Records

Your request for government records (# C153023) is as follows:

- All communications between members of this office and employees or representatives of the American Legislative Exchange Council
- All communications containing the keywords "ALEC" or "American Legislative Exchange Council"
- Any files or documents attached to the above communications